

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace the present title with the following amended title:**

A NETWORK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR MANAGING NETWORKS AND  
IMPLEMENTING SERVICES ON THE NETWORKS USING RULES AND INCLUDING AN  
INFERENCE ENGINE

**Please replace eight full paragraph appearing on page 4, lines 22 to 24 of the  
specification with the following amended paragraph:**

Figure 2 shows a network management system NMS associated with a network N. The  
network N includes network elements  $E_1, E_2 \dots E_n$  which can be IP routers, asynchronous transfer  
mode (ATM) switches, etc. The network management layer communicates with the network N  
via a communication link C.